MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given
Requiring an Oral Answer

Sitting of Tuesday 15 November 2005

Questions addressed to Dr the Honourable Prime Minister,
Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service &
Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands

I B/466  The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and
Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence
& Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative
Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from
the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, information as to
whether a journalist, a cameraman and a driver have
recently been suspended and, if so, the reasons for their
suspension?

I B/467  The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and
Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence
& Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative
Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he will state if part of the proceeds from the line
of credit obtained recently from India is meant to finance
the free transport scheme for students and senior
citizens?
I B/468 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (Mrs Hanoomanjee)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, information as to whether a journalist, a cameraman and a driver have recently been suspended and, if so, the reasons for their suspension?

I B/469 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Jhugroo)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:

Whether, in regard to the Hawkers Palace Project, he will state if it has been cancelled and, if so, will he give the reasons therefor and, whether there is any alternative?

I B/470 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Jhugroo)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:

Whether he will give the composition of the delegation, both from the Government and from the private sector, which accompanied him during his recent visit to India?
I B/471

The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether, in regard to the recent selection of Police Riders, he will, for the benefit of the House (a) obtain from the Commissioner of Police information as to the procedures followed for their selection, indicating whether any examination was held and (b) table a list of candidates short-listed and the candidates selected?

I B/472

The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he will state if during his recent official visit to India any bilateral agreement was signed between our private sector and the business community in India and, if so, will he consider the advisability of giving details thereof?

I B/473

The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mrs Labelle)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether, in regard to the line of credit obtained during his recent official visit to India, he will state (a) the amount thereof (b) the terms and conditions attached thereto, and (c) the projects which will be financed therefrom?
I B/474 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether, in regard to the Report of the Commission on Constitutional and Electoral Reforms, commonly known as the SACHS Report, he will state (a) the cost thereof (b) the reasons for not implementing its recommendations and (c) the follow-up action, if any, which is envisaged?

I B/475 The Honourable Third Member for Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac (Mr Mohamed)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether, in regard to the Police Station in Souillac which is presently undergoing renovation, he will, in view of the historical importance of the site, consider the advisability of (a) not making use of that building for a Police Station (b) having the said building restored to its original state and (c) moving the Souillac Police Station to a new site?

I B/476 The Honourable First Member for Savanne and Black River (Mr Ganoo)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he will state (a) if he has taken cognizance of the Report of the Land Restitution Committee chaired by former Justice Ahnee and (b) whether Government intends to take any measures in favour of victims who complained that their ascendants have been dispossessed of their land by sugar estates and other parties?
Questions addressed to Honourable Ministers, other than
Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home
Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister
of Rodrigues & Outer Islands

I B/477 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and
Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of
Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he will state if students will continue to benefit
from free transport during school holidays and, if not, why not?

I B/478 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and
Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of
Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he will state if, on or about 31 October 2005, there
was traffic congestion in Port Louis during practically the
whole day and, if so, the reasons thereof and the
measures that have been taken to prevent such recurrence?

I B/479 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black
River (Mrs Hanoomanjee)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Social Security, National
Solidarity and Senior Citizens Welfare & Reform Institutions:-

Whether she had been made aware that an incident
occurred at the Rehabilitation Youth Centre (Female
Section) during the night of 04 November 2005 and, if so,
will she state (a) the nature thereof (b) whether an inquiry
had been carried out thereon and (c) the remedial action
taken?
I B/480 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (Mrs Hanoomanjee)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he will state if the Management Audit Bureau has carried out a study on the Development Works Corporation and, if so, will he state whether the Bureau has recommended the closure of the Corporation?

I B/481 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (Mrs Hanoomanjee)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life:-

Whether there is a project for the construction of a hospital by the Apollo Group of India and the British American Insurance Company of Mauritius and, if so, will he state if Government proposes to invest in same and the amount of such investment?

I B/482 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Jhugroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life:-

Whether, in regard to the Trust Fund for Specialized Medical Care, he will state (a) if any Chairperson has been appointed and, if so, his name and the date of his appointment and (b) the number of sittings held by the Board since 01 July 2005 todate?

I B/483 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Jhugroo)

To ask the Honourable the Attorney-General, Minister of Justice & Human Rights:-

Whether, in the light of Government decision to amend the Reform Institutions Act to provide for remission of sentences, he will state what measures, if any, are being
proposed to prevent offenders benefiting from such remission from committing other criminal offences?

I B/484

The Honourable Third Member for Stanley and Rose Hill (Mrs Jeewa-Daureeawoo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Co-operation:-

Whether he will state if he has received verbal or written representations from Mauritian nationals working in Dubai and wishing to return to Mauritius on the grounds of their being exploited and of the inhumane treatment meted out to them by their foreign employers and, if so, will he state what remedial measures are envisaged?

I B/485

The Honourable Third Member for Stanley and Rose Hill (Mrs Jeewa-Daureeawoo)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment:-

Whether he is aware that Mauritian citizens working in certain Gulf countries are victims of abusive clauses in their respective contracts of service and, if so, what measures, if any, he proposes to take for their protection?

I B/486

The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development:-

Whether he will state if it is proposed to raise loans in foreign currency either for debt servicing or for meeting any recurrent expenditure and, if so, will he give details thereof?
I B/487 The Honourable Third Member for Rodrigues (Mr Leopold)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life:-

Whether, in regard to migratory birds which land at Cocos Islands in Rodrigues and which might be potential carriers of the pathogenic virus causing the bird flu, he will state (a) the appropriate preventive measures presently being taken in terms of monitoring, detection and screening of these birds (b) the nature of the tests performed in relation thereto (c) by whom these tests are being carried out and (d) what measures have been taken for the elimination of birds in case they are found to be infected?

I B/488 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Naidu)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture:-

Whether, in regard to the cultural show held at the Anjalay Stadium on 29 October 2005, he will state to whom the tender for the provision of lighting services was awarded and the cost thereof?

I B/489 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Naidu)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Industry, Small & Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether, in regard to Small and Medium Enterprises, he will (a) give the number of such enterprises set up and the jobs created in that sector since July 2005 and (b) for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Development Bank of Mauritius Ltd., information as to (i) the number of enterprises which have benefited from loan facilities offered by the Bank and (ii) the total amount disbursed to them by the newly created Empowerment Fund?
I B/490 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Bhagwan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, in regard to the road works projects at La Chaumière, Rose Hill, he will state (a) when was the contract awarded and to whom (b) the scope of the works and (c) the expected date of commencement and of completion?

I B/491 The Honourable Fourth Member for Rodrigues (Mr Von Mally)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he is aware that there is a difference in the initial and the final cost of the Anse Raffin Dam Project in Rodrigues and, if so, will he give the quantum thereof, indicating if an inquiry will be carried out to establish the cause of the difference?

I B/492 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (Mr Lauthan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizens Welfare & Reform Institutions:-

Whether she will, for the benefit of the House, consider the advisability of tabling a copy of the recent report of the Mauritius Research Council on the issue of suicide?

I B/493 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (Mr Lauthan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizens Welfare & Reform Institutions:-

Whether she will state if Dr Suresh Kumar, UNDP Expert, has submitted a report on the study he carried out on the issue of substance abuse and HIV/AIDS and, if so, will she (a) indicate the main recommendations thereof and (b) consider the advisability of tabling a copy of the report?
I B/494 The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mrs Labelle)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizens Welfare & Reform Institutions:-

Whether she will state the number of psychologists attached to the Suicide Prevention Unit of her Ministry, indicating the monthly average number of cases referred to that unit?

I B/495 The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mrs Labelle)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizens Welfare & Reform Institutions:-

Whether, in regard to the Rehabilitation Youth Officers appointed in April 2003, she will state whether these officers have been confirmed in their post and, if so, when and, if not, why not?

I B/496 The Honourable Second Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mrs Martin)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he is aware that planters in the region of Rivière Dubois Street/La Pipe Lane off Leal Bridge, Midlands, face difficulties, especially for the transportation of their cane during the harvest season, due to the poor state of the road thereat and, if so, will he state if it is proposed to tar the damaged road?

I B/497 The Honourable Second Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mrs Martin)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Industry, Small & Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether, in regard to the AMUL brand of powdered milk, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the State
Trading Corporation, information as to (a) the amount imported by the Corporation (b) when the product was launched on the local market and its current selling price and (c) the name of the local distributor?

I B/498 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Naidu)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether, in regard to the provision of free transport to students and senior citizens, he will state (a) the number of private bus owners to whom (i) the monthly allowance is due and (ii) the monthly allowance has been paid, and (b) the amount disbursed to date?

I B/499 The Honourable Second Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (Mr Bundhoo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he is aware of the flooding problem at the Bel Air State Secondary School during the rainy season and, if so, will he state what immediate remedial measures are envisaged?

I B/500 The Honourable Second Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (Mr Bundhoo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether, in regard to the Government school located at Grand River South East, he will state if he has received from the Parent-Teachers Association (a) any complaints in regard to the dilapidated state of the corrugated iron sheet roof and the false ceiling and (b) a request for the construction of a children’s corner and a volleyball cum basketball pitch and, if so, will he state what action has been initiated in respect thereto?
I B/501 The Honourable Second Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (Mr Bundhoo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether he will state if he has received any complaints from the Parent Teachers Association of the Sir Satcam Boolell Government School at Sebastopol, in regard to (a) office and classroom requirements (b) repairs and maintenance and (c) extension of the school yard and, if so, will he state what actions have been initiated in respect thereof?

I B/502 The Honourable Second Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil (Dr Mungur)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life:-

Whether, in regard to patients presently undergoing dialysis treatment being dialyzed at the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital, Pamplemousses, he will (a) state the number thereof from the region of Flacq and its surroundings and (b) consider the advisability of providing additional dialysis machines at the Dialysis Centre of the Flacq Hospital?

I B/503 The Honourable Second Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil (Dr Mungur)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Pre-School Trust Fund, information as to (a) the number of supply teachers currently being employed on a temporary basis and (b) whether the Fund proposes to retain their services on a permanent basis?
I B/504 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mrs Virahsawmy)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he is aware that a borehole in Congomah has, for the past five years, not been connected to the water supply system and, if so, will he state what remedial measures are being envisaged for its connection with a view to ensuring a regular supply of water to the inhabitants of the region?

I B/505 The Honourable Third Member for Grand’ Baie and Poudre d’Or (Mr Guttee)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he is aware that the inhabitants of Camp Domaingue, Petit Raffray, are not being provided with a regular water supply for the past five years and, if so, will he state what remedial measures are being envisaged?

I B/506 The Honourable Third Member for Grand’ Baie and Poudre d’Or (Mr Guttee)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, following his recent visit in the Constituency of Grand’ Baie and Poudre d’Or, he will state where matters stand concerning the tarring of roads in the village of the Vale?

I B/507 The Honourable Third Member for Grand’ Baie and Poudre d’Or (Mr Guttee)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he is aware that taxi licences were issued to people in the Constituency of Grand’ Baie and Poudre d’Or on the eve of the last general election and, if so, will he state the number of beneficiaries (a) who were already
in employment (b) who were the holders of a driving licence for a lesser period of five years and (c) who were physically disabled?

I B/508 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether, in regard to the World Hindi Secretariat, he will state (a) when the World Hindi Secretariat Act 2002 will be proclaimed (b) whether he is aware that the foundation stone was laid in Phoenix by a then Senior Minister of the Republic of India (c) whether there has been any follow-up action and, if not, why not, and (d) his Ministry’s policy in regard thereto?

I B/509 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he is aware that the inhabitants of Plaine Magnien have requested that the Rishi Dayanand Road aligning the wall of the Burrenhobay Government School be slightly widened and, if so, will he state (a) whether site visits have been carried out by technicians of his Ministry (b) why work has not yet started and (c) the steps he proposes to take for the implementation of the project which will facilitate both the school children and the inhabitants of the locality?

I B/510 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he will state if it is proposed to construct, as a matter of priority, a shelter at the bus stop in the village of
Des Places in the Constituency of Plaine Magnien and Mahebourg?

I B/511 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Ms Deerpalsing)

To ask the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development:-

Whether he will state (a) the amount of annual revenue foregone as a percentage of total revenue collected at the Customs Department through exemptions and (b) the number of departments or agencies through which exemptions are granted?

I B/512 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Ms Deerpalsing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he will state if consideration will be given for expediting the current road works at Palma Road, Quatre Bornes, so that these works could be completed sooner than the planned date?

I B/513 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Ms Deerpalsing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he is aware that the number of accidents at the junction of Malefille and Lapeyrousse Avenues in Quatre Bornes is on the increase and, if so, will he state what preventive measures are being envisaged?
I B/514 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Ms Deerpalsing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he is aware that residents of Rotin No. 1 Road and the surrounding neighbourhood in Palma/La Source are facing problems due to frequent interruptions in the water supply and, if so, will he state what remedial measures are envisaged?

I B/515 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether, in regard to the CPE Examinations and in the light of the Report of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate regarding the performance of students at the 2004 CPE Examinations who did not attempt at composition writing, he will state (a) what steps he has taken or proposes to take and (b) if he will consider the advisability of further splitting grading at CPE into A+, A, B+, B, etc, and make a statement thereon?

I B/516 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he is aware that the volume of traffic at St Julien d’Hotman and at Alma is increasing thereby leading to an increase in road accidents thereat and, if so, will he urgently consider taking necessary remedial measures?
I B/517 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether, in regard to the narrow bridge located at St Pierre in the vicinity of the Church and the State Bank, he will state if it is proposed to construct a new bridge thereat and, if so, when and, if not, why not?

I B/518 The Honourable Third Member for Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac (Mr Mohamed)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he will consider the advisability of relocating the sub-office and stores situated next to the District Court in Souillac so that the land is made available to the public as an extension of the Telfair Garden?

I B/519 The Honourable Third Member for Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac (Mr Mohamed)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether, in regard to the public transport situation in Britannia, he will consider the advisability of providing additional public transport facilities thereat?
I B/520

The Honourable First Member for Savanne and Black River
(Mr Ganoo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he will give a list of the cases presently pending before the Environment Appeal Tribunal, indicating in each case the names of the parties and the dates the respective cases have been fixed for hearing?

R. R. Dowlutta
Clerk of the National Assembly

Parliament House
Port Louis

10 November 2005
MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given
Not Requiring an Oral Answer

Sitting of Tuesday 15 November 2005

I A/9  The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask Dr the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping:-

Whether he will consider the advisability of widening the road leading from Quartier Militaire to Couacaud via Valetta in view of its narrowness and the increasing volume of traffic?

I A/10  The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Naidu)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he is aware of the poor state of the cremation ground at Chebel and, if so, will he state what remedial measures are envisaged for its upgrading, cleaning and maintenance?

R. R. Dowlutta
Clerk of the National Assembly

Parliament House
Port Louis

10 November 2005